

## METHODS AND APPARATUS FOR OPERATING GAS TURBINE ENGINE COMBUSTORS

### ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A method facilitates assembling a gas turbine engine. The method comprises coupling a combustor including a dome assembly and a combustor liner that extends downstream from the dome assembly to a combustor casing that is positioned radially outwardly from the combustor, coupling a ring support that includes a first radial flange, a second radial flange, and a plurality of beams that extend therebetween to the combustor casing, and coupling a primer nozzle including an injection tip to the combustor such that the primer nozzle extends axially through the dome assembly such that fuel may be discharged from the primer nozzle into the combustor during engine start-up operating conditions.